

John Avery Boys & Girls Club

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September 9, 2015

Mr. Jeff Mann General Manager GoTriangle P.O. Box 530 Morrisville, NC 27560

Subject: Support for Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT) Project

Dear Mr. Mann,

The Boys & Girls Club of Greater Durham supports building the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project. The project is important to the future development of the greater Durham area and the local community. Having such a major infrastructure investment in close proximity to a valuable community resource that impacts the lives of young children is very important.

- The population in Durham and Orange counties is anticipated to grow by 64% and 52% respectively, over the next 30 years. In the Durham-Orange (D-O) corridor the population is expected to double. This growth is fueled by colleges and universities including UNC, Duke, NCCU, and Durham Technical Community College (DTCC) and major medical facilities, including UNC Hospitals, Durham Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center, and Duke Medical Center. The D-O LRT project will provide dependable, time competitive, high-capacity transit service within the D-O Corridor along the NC 54, I-40, US 15-501, Erwin Road and NC 147. And, it will improve mobility, expand transit options, and support future development plans.
- The communities in Durham and Orange counties place a high value on transit and the positive economic opportunities it fosters. This is exemplified by each county's successful referenda approving a ½ cent sales tax for transit. Equally as important is the opportunity presented by the D-O LRT project to accommodate future growth within station areas, fostering environmental sustainability and protecting rural areas.
- The area's highly rated quality of life, reputation for innovation and entrepreneurship and its cultural, culinary and natural resources will continue to entice more people to relocate to our area. The D-O LRT Project will serve to maintain that quality, protect our natural resources and attract new industry, jobs and residents.
- We look forward to continuing to work with GoTriangle on the implementation of the D-O LRT Project.

Sincerely,

Jerome Levisy, CEO

Boys & Girls Club of Greater Durham